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RR RUEHCN RUEHGH RUEHVC
DE RUEHBJ #0980 1040904
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 140904Z APR 09
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3414
INFO RUEHOO/CHINA POSTS COLLECTIVE
RHMFIU/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI

UNCLAS BEIJING 000980

DEPARTMENT FOR INR/R/MR, EAP/CM, EAP/PA, EAP/PD, C
HQ PACOM FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR (J007)
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC KMDR CH PREL ECON

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS, U.S. POLICY

Editorial Quotes

11. U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS

a. "American media sensationalized the so called Chinese 'toxic construction materials'" The official Communist Party international news publication Global Times (Huanqiu Shibao)(04/14): "Since the American media reported about the "toxic, made-in-China, drywall", the reports of "suffering from the toxic effects of Chinese construction materials" have begun to be seen in the American media.

Some American media emotionally expressed that the U.S. government was "afraid of China" so they allowed the exporting of China's toxic construction materials to America. Two Chinese drywall producers were sued in Florida this January. But according to the detecting results done by the Florida Health Department, the materials will not cause health problems to the public. The Associated Press reported on the 12th that New Orleans residents, who used a lot of imported construction materials from China for their house construction, felt physically uncomfortable [due to the toxic effects of the construction materials] and were very disappointed in Chinese construction materials. Chinese experts questioned this since Hurricane Katrina happened four years ago, why is the media reporting this news about the "toxic construction materials" and "the residents feeling uncomfortable" in New Orleans now?

The American Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and some American States have conducted investigations on this issue. Researcher Niu Xinchun, from China Institute of Contemporary International Relations, said that it was "irresponsible to report such news before the whole situation has become clear. Such emotional reactions are related to the financial crisis." Niu said, "under the impact of economic downturn and importing problematic Chinese products, some American media and individuals have made the Chinese government and Chinese products their scapegoats." He Weiwen from an institute of the U.S.-China Economy said that it is "unreasonable to politicize this incident and condemn China, or involve the American government." "

b. "The West needs to liberate their thoughts"
The official Communist Party international news publication Global Times (Huanqiu Shibao)(04/14): "This article discusses China's experiences through its 'opening up' period, over the last 30 years.

Constantly liberating its thoughts, throwing away old views, and accepting new things are the important experiences China did to successfully develop itself during the last 30 years. The financial crisis has pushed the world into a crisis, this is a critical time. This crisis awakes people's awareness of a unified world. Every international organization and country should work together to overcome the current crisis. However, the world is dominated by old thinking, which is the biggest restraint. There are still antagonism between "capitalism" and "socialism". The old thinking is breaking apart the principles of free trade. To make a better world, western countries need to liberate their thoughts and experience an 'opening' of their own."

12. U.S. POLICY

"The Pentagon will militarize U.S. diplomacy"
The official Communist Party international news publication Global Times (Huanqiu Shibao)(04/14): "The key theme is "preserving global hegemony", and the Pentagon is walking the walk of no return by increasing its powers, spending and becoming involved in more and more issues. Meanwhile the ambitious Pentagon is being criticized by the Department of State, which is saying that they are "secretly seizing power". The Washington Post even suggests that the Pentagon is "showing off his muscles." The Pentagon is criticized by America's opponents that it is "doing things that are unsuitable to their level of power". The criticisms against the U.S. say that the Pentagon is unrestrained when it "gambles with the military forces."

The Pentagon has obvious advantages, especially when its budget is larger than the budget of the Department of State. The unlimited power of the Pentagon has been challenged by domestic America. The Pentagon is not only powerful in interfering with diplomacy, but also frequently creates troubles in order to lead diplomatically. For example, there are the events of shooting down the Iranian remotely piloted aircraft and the "Impeccable" in the South China Sea. For Americans, the Pentagon is a symbol. Looking back at American history, every important moment in American history was decided by the war, for example, the War of Independence and the Civil War that helped to gain the land in the south and the west, as well as World War II. These wars set a foundation for America's dominant position. The Pentagon is a product from the World War II."

Weinstein